

Southwestern Indiana Health Services Academy Certified Nursing Assistant Program

Academy for Innovative Studies, First Avenue is Making it Happen!



WE ARE

AIS First Avenue is a fully accredited alternative high school serving grades 9-12 in Evansville, IN, and is home to a little over 400 students. We are a Title I community school with 76% of our families qualifying for free/reduced lunch.

OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

61% of our students are white

25.5% are black

10.3% are multiracial

The remaining students are Latino, Asian, or American Indian.

31% are special education

69% are general education students.

OUR TEACHERS

We have 24 dedicated teachers and 1 registered nurse CNA instructor.

OUR PROMISING PRACTICE

Our promising practice allows students to obtain a Certified Nursing Assistant certificate while earning their high school diploma.

Our Certified Nursing Assistant program has resulted in students improving their attendance, grades, and behavior by as much as 85%, and 100% of our students were offered employment prior to graduation. Employers report that our students are well-prepared with the right skills and great attitudes!

OUR STEPS

We started with 4 incredible partners- Heritage Center, Southwest Indiana Area Health Education Center, Southwestern Indiana Health Services Academy, and WorkOne who came together for a common goal—to help high school students become certified nursing assistants and secure employment prior to graduation.

Within a few months we added additional partners including, Oak Hill Baptist Church, parents, teachers, University of Evansville Black Student Union, our school social worker, social worker interns, and principal interns.

We came up with a list of needs, including a hospital bed, mannequin, medical supplies, equipment and sponsorship for 13 students. Within 2 weeks, we had everything we needed. All we had to do was ask!

IN OUR OWN WORDS

"I would not come to school today if I weren't in the CNA class." **KayLee Martin, CNA Student**

"It felt so good to finally be noticed at the CNA ceremony. All my life I have gone unnoticed. It was such a great experience to stand out." **Dana Dielkes, CNA Student**

"They are caring and efficient beyond their years." **Heritage resident's family member**

For more information about our school or corporation, email: kristine.eichholz@evsc.k12.in.us
or visit our website: www.edlines.net/pages/AIS_First_Avenue